

## Merritt, Allen

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**From:** Tuthill, Dave  
**Sent:** Monday, January 12, 2009 8:55 AM  
**To:** Luke, Tim  
**Cc:** 'watermanager@cableone.net'; Merritt, Allen; Spackman, Gary; 'Wendy Jaquet'  
**Subject:** RE: Letters and Responses Re: Water Management in the Big Wood and Little Wood River Basins

Thank you, Tim, for the helpful augmentation.

As clarification for Representative Jaquet, these 50 plus ground water rights are unique and subject to control by the Watermaster only because they have already received special conditions over the years subjecting them to Watermaster control. For example the water right for a well might have been approved because it is mitigated by surface water subject to delivery by the Watermaster. The jurisdiction of the Watermaster does not extend to the vast majority of wells which have not received such conditions.

Dave

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**From:** Luke, Tim  
**Sent:** Monday, January 12, 2009 8:43 AM  
**To:** Tuthill, Dave  
**Cc:** 'watermanager@cableone.net'; Merritt, Allen; Spackman, Gary; 'Wendy Jaquet'  
**Subject:** RE: Letters and Responses Re: Water Management in the Big Wood and Little Wood River Basins

Dave,

Thanks for sharing these letters with us. The responses will be a helpful resource for Allen and Doug who are attending the water district meetings today. It may also be helpful for Allen to explain today that some of the recent guidance and review that IDWR provided to the watermaster, which was referenced in Mr. Nance's letter, involved some 50 plus ground water rights in the Upper Big Wood that already have watermaster conditions and that the watermaster should begin monitoring and regulating this year. Some of these rights involving exchanges were already being regulated by the watermaster but many of the remaining rights have not been regulated in the traditional sense. I think this will be a good year for the watermaster to begin the monitoring and regulation of those ground water rights and I believe he plans to do so in accordance with our direction. This added responsibility that I see for these ground water rights this year will probably be challenging enough, but will also provide the watermaster and district good insight and experience for further and broader ground water right administration in the future.

Tim

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**From:** Tuthill, Dave  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 11, 2009 4:42 PM  
**To:** 'Wendy Jaquet'  
**Cc:** watermanager@cableone.net; Merritt, Allen; Luke, Tim; Spackman, Gary  
**Subject:** Letters and Responses Re: Water Management in the Big Wood and Little Wood River Basins

All,

Please find attached four letters, as follows:

- Letter to me from Mr. Jerry Nance dated October 28, 2008
- Letter to me from Rep. Wendy Jaquet dated December 4, 2008
- Response from me to Mr. Nance dated today
- Response from me to Rep. Jaquet dated today

These documents all center around the theme of moving toward conjunctive administration of surface and ground water in the Wood River basin. The responses are intended to address the issues raised by Mr. Nance and Rep. Jaquet in a coordinated manner, so they should be read together.

I am aware that the annual water district meetings for Water Districts Nos. 37 and 37M will take place tomorrow afternoon. Tim and Allen, please coordinate so that the IDWR representative(s) at these meetings will have the benefit of having reviewed these documents prior to the meetings -- also, our representative(s) should take copies of the letters to the